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1. WITTENBERG (E37), 10-12 and 17-19 January 1950

a. General: On the basis of observation, reports of local residents, and the flow of vehicle traffic, source believes that WITTENBERG is occupied by the remnants of an armored division minus its artillery battalion. No artillery or AT units were in evidence. [REDACTED] the latter units may be based in KOETZEN (D95). *

b. Flak Kaserne: Situated one kilometer east of the Berliner Chaussee at the northeastern city limits, this barracks is occupied by about 6,000 young troops wearing black straps/red piping. Officers and older NCO's wear Guards insignia. More than half the total wear tank insignia. Most of the motorized riflemen were usually seen training at a nearby field.

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c. Night T-34/85 tanks were observed: a workman alleged that Flak Kaserne sheds contained a total of sixty.

d. Beseler Kaserne: Located in northwest WITTLIBERG, west of the Berliner Chaussee. Its five 3-story buildings are tenanted by approximately 2,000 men comprising, probably, one heavy tank regiment with attached SU battalion and machine pistol unit. A letter found at the barracks was addressed to [redacted] et. Some packages delivered to the railroad station by vehicle [redacted] in the return address space along with personal names.

g. Actually seen were [redacted] - the latter leaving large tank repair shop on the grounds. A woman employed in the installation stated that garages in the northern sector of the barracks area held six~~ty~~ three T-34/85's and thirty-two "new" tanks.

2. Tauntonzien Kaserne: Located midtown, corner of Berliner Chaussee, Lutherstrasse, Juristenstrasse, and as a result difficult to approach. Strength estimated at 1,500 men, many being older signal corps troops.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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h. Instruction was being given, 13 January, in radio car [redacted] this car later left the barracks and proceeded to the Schloss park, where cables were laid to the Tauntzien and Eseler Barracks. A motorized rifle company of two officers, eight NCO's, and eighty-eight EM, all armed with machine pistols, was observed at field training near the Elbe.

Vehicles: [redacted]

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i. A small auxiliary airfield is located south of WITTENBERG, due south of the Elbe and west of the Elbe bridge. Three PC-2 were observed there. About 100 "flight technicians" are based at the field, which is little more than a meadow. [redacted] later seen at the Tauntzien Barracks.

2. KOETHEN (D95), 11 January 1950

a. The barracks is located near the airfield on the Jederitzstrasse. It is held by about 1,400 young artillerymen, who were observed training with eight 57 mm AT guns 41, twelve 76.2 mm guns, and ten SMG's (latter used by sixty men).

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3. MAGDEBURG/FRIEDRICHSTADT (D69), 25-27 January 1950

a. Kaserne on Herrenkrugerstrasse: About 2,100 men occupy seven barracks buildings. Among them are some 600 youngsters, still boasting short haircuts, who arrived in mid-December 1949. Older EM variously show artillery and armored insignia.

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[redacted] held eight T-34/35 tanks and twelve guns.

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c. The northern part of the barracks is held by 1,200 motorized rifle troops. Young EM trained daily on the shores of the Elbe. Two vehicles [redacted]

d. Kaserne on Sturmchancenstrasse: This barracks on the Elbe bank consists of two buildings, occupied by about 250 signal corps troops. Connected with it is another barracks (unlocated by source) also with two buildings, these held by about 400 men with black straps/red piping, who were seen training along the Elbe shore.

4. MAGDEBURG-CRAKAU (D69)

a. Flak Kaserne: Occupied by approximately 1,600 armored troops equipped, according to a local resident, with tanks and SU's. Garage capacity is estimated at 100 treaded vehicles, but source saw only three JS-1's in an open shed.

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5. BRANDENBURG (Z23), 28 January 1950

a. Infanterie Kaserne: Approximately 500 artillerymen of older classes, 150 of whom were seen unloading coal at the railroad station along with

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b. Flak Kaserne: About 1,500 artillerymen, all older age types. All but two garages were closed; in one was a single 85 mm AA gun, in the other were six 122 mm guns. Only one [REDACTED]

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c. Generalfeldzeugmeister Kaserne: About 1,000 older artillerymen, some of whom were training in the compound with four 75.2 mm guns. Moving [REDACTED]

d. Near the latter barracks is a building formerly used as a school by the Wehrmacht and currently used by 105 officers, chiefly lieutenants, but with a sprinkling of captains, majors and lieutenant colonels. The strength figure was ascertained when these officers went to mess at 1400 hours on 28 January. The officers, led by an artillery general, later proceeded to the Flak Kaserne. According to local residents, trucks hauling officers arrived about three weeks before observation date, coming from MAGDEBURG and RATHENOW.

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Comments

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* A good enough guess, this apparently being 6 Guards Tank Division, 3 Guards Mechanized Army. It is probable, however, that the KOTTEN artillery units belong to 7 Guards Tank Division.

[REDACTED] was last identified in September 1949, when it was credited to 52 Guards Tank Regiment, WITTENBERG-JUSTERBOG.

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